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CORPORATION FILE

McCRORY

CORPORATION

1961 Annual Report





Contents

Corporate Personnel	2
To Our Stockholders	4
Financial Review	7
Operating Divisions	8
Modern Retailing	14
Financial Reports	16
"Under the Spreading McCrory Sign"	24
Spanning a Continent	26

McCRORY CORPORATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

B. GERALD CANTOR
PATRICK J. CLIFFORD

**ROY F. COPPEDGE
HAROLD S. DIVINE
J. NEAL DOW
MILTON HELLER
N. BAXTER JACKSON
BERNARD KOBROVSKY

*HAROLD M. LANE

HAROLD M. LANE, JR.

*LEONARD C. LANE

*WILLIAM L. LESS

*JAMES LUTZ

GRAHAM MAGEE

ALFRED T. MANACHER

*FRANK J. MANHEIM

EDWARD L. MARKS

DONALD L. MILLER

*BERT R. PRALL

CHARLES C. RENSHAW

*MESHULAM RIKLIS
JULIUS SANDITEN
DAVID R. SCHOALES

*LEONARD SPANGENBERG
MELVIN UNTERMAN

*HARRY H. WACHTEL

*JACOB S. WEINSTEIN
JOHN A. WELLS

OPERATING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

JAMES LUTZ, Chairman

ROY F. COPPEDGE

J. NEAL DOW

J. NEAL DOW

HAROLD M. LANE

GRAHAM MAGEE

EDWARD L. MARKS

PETER F. PANTLIN, Secretary

MESHULAM RIKLIS

JULIUS SANDITEN

HERBERT D. SILVER

LEONARD SPANGENBERG

HARRY J. TOFEL

HARRY H. WACHTEL

OFFICERS

MESHULAM RIKLIS													Chairman of Board of Directors
JAMES LUTZ													President
HARRY H. WACHTEL .	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠		٠	٠	٠	Vice	Chairman of Board of Directors & Executive Vice President
													or Vice President & President of McCrory-McLellan-Green
HERBERT D. SILVER .												Final	ncial Vice President & Treasurer
LEONARD SPANGENBERG												. CI	nairman of Executive Committee
HAROLD M. LANE											C	hairm	an of Lerner Stores Corporation
BERT R. PRALL													. Vice President & President of
													. Vice President & President of Oklahoma Tire & Supply
													. Vice President & President of National Shirt Shops
HAROLD M. LANE, JR													Vice President
GRAHAM MAGEE													Vice President
HARRY J. TOFEL													Vice President
GEORGE A. GREENBERG													Vice President
T. C. LAWRENCE													Secretary
STANLEY I. ROSENFELD													Comptroller
						-		-	-	-			

^{*}Member of Executive Committee

^{**}Chairman Emeritus

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

WILLIAM L. LESS .											Chairman of Finance Committee
JACOB S. WEINSTEIN.											Chairman of Acquisition Committee
CHARLES C. RENSHAW	1				C	0-0	ha	irm	en	of	Committee on Salary and Compensation
BERNARD KOBROVSKY	5	•	•	٠		D-C	7114			O)	Committee on Sulary and Compensation
LEONARD C. LANE .											. Chairman of Stock Option Committee

AUDITORS

ARTHUR ANDERSEN & Co., New York, N. Y.

GENERAL COUNSEL

WACHTEL & MICHAELSON, New York, N. Y.

TRANSFER AGENTS

Common Stock 5½% Preference B Stock 4½% Preference B Stock	}	Chemical Bank New York Trust Co. and First National Bank of Chicago
3½% Preferred Stock \$6 Preference Stock	}	Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. of New York and First National Bank of Chicago

REGISTRARS

Common Stock 5½ % Preference B Stock	}	Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. of New York and Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Co. of Chicago
4½% Preference B Stock	}	The Chase Manhattan Bank and Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Co. of Chicago
3½% Preferred Stock \$6 Preference Stock	}	Chemical Bank New York Trust Co. and Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Co. of Chicago

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

711 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders will be held at the office of the Corporation, Bank of Wilmington Building, Corner 9th & Market Streets, Wilmington, Delaware, on Tuesday, June 12, 1962, at 12 o'clock noon, Wilmington time. Each stockholder entitled to vote thereat will receive by mail a formal notice of meeting, together with proxy statement and form of proxy, on or about May 14, 1962, at which time proxies will be solicited by order of the Board of Directors.

TO OUR STOCKHOLDERS:

We are pleased to present this report of your company's activities for the year ended December 31, 1961. The report should be evaluated in light of the objective announced two years ago to establish a progressive, diversified merchandising organization.

From the early part of 1960 into mid-1961, the board of directors and your management were actively engaged in an acquisition program of variety stores (McCrory-McLellan-Green); hard goods stores (Oklahoma Tire & Supply and Economy Auto Stores); men's wear stores (National Shirt Shops) and ladies' and children's apparel stores (Lerner Shops). This entire program was consummated in a period of little more than 18 months and involved various methods of acquisition.

From mid-1961 to the present, and for 1962, our program has called for consolidation and expansion of existing entities and for the beginning of integration under one roof of all our merchandising units in the "McCrory Village" concept.

A key prerequisite to the success of the present program was the development of operating management. In late 1960 new top management came to McCrory. During 1961, we reinforced this management structure by selecting men from our divisions and adding men with specialized abilities in merchandising, administration, real estate, buying and sales promotion. Today this management force is hard at work providing the talent and strength to accomplish the formidable tasks outlined above. We are confident that the extraordinary results of the first program will be equaled, if not surpassed, by management in the current year.

The significant events of 1961 can be classified and reviewed under five headings: (1) the consolidation and integration of the H. L. Green Company into the new McCrory-McLellan-Green Stores Division of McCrory Corporation; (2) the acquisition of the outstanding stock of Lerner Stores Corporation and Economy Auto Stores, Inc.; (3) the continued development and solidification of aggressive management through appointments and promotions; (4) the institution of merchandising and operational innovations and (5) the formation of the McCrory Credit Corporation.

H. L. Green

The operational consolidation of H. L. Green with McCrory followed the merger of the two companies in June 1961. Shareholders of Green received 4½ per cent Preference B shares and warrants in the merger. Some months prior to this move, Green had sold 51 stores of its Mobile Division and 86 stores that formerly comprised its Metropolitan Stores Division in Canada. With the merger officially approved by both the Green and McCrory stockholders, your company began the process of absorbing the remaining Green stores into the McCrory-McLellan structure. These

stores became part of the enlarged McCrory-McLellan-Green Stores Division of McCrory Corporation under the direction of its new president, J. Neal Dow, who joined the company in 1960.

As president of the McCrory-McLellan-Green Stores Division, one of Mr. Dow's important tasks during 1961 was the consolidation of the separate home and field organizations operated by McCrory-McLellan and Green. This was a formidable job involving the coordination of offices and personnel and the shifting of executives of both companies to new posts under the realigned operation. The field organizations were decentralized by the establishment of a regional management group, and a retail committee including regional managers was set up to determine merchandising and administrative policy and to provide a better line of communication between the home office and the field. This program, which will be further implemented during the current year, has already resulted in a stronger, more closely knit operating group and major improvement in the operation of the business.

Simultaneously, a number of the former Mobile Division stores were converted into Gulf Mills Discount Department Stores. These are 8,000 to 12,000 square foot units that specialize in merchandising soft goods lines. Eight Gulf Mills Discount Department Stores are now operating as part of our McCrory-McLellan-Green division. Based upon the success of these stores, our plans call for an increase in this type of discount unit during 1962.

Lerner Stores

The acquisition of a majority of the outstanding common stock of Lerner Stores Corporation and Economy Auto Stores, Inc., last year added diversification to your company in two major areas of retailing—the women's and children's apparel field and the hard goods field.

McCrory now owns more than 90 per cent of the outstanding common shares of Lerner Stores Corporation. Lerner shareholders were paid, at their choice, either (a) \$33 in cash or (b) a \$40 5½ per cent debenture due August 15, 1976, and warrants to purchase McCrory common stock at \$20 per share. This offering was completed in September 1961.

Lerner currently operates 310 stores in 39 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The company also operates three Lanes fashion discount shops in New York City and Nassau County, Long Island, with a total of 262,000 square feet of selling space. Lerner has built a 40-year reputation as one of the country's most astute merchandisers of popular priced women's and children's wear. Its acquisition adds to McCrory not only an outstanding national chain but proven management headed by Harold M, Lane.

Economy Auto Stores

A significant acquisition during the latter part of 1961 was the purchase of Economy Auto Stores, Inc., via a cash tender for stock. Economy Auto is a chain of 32 company owned and 73 franchised stores in Georgia, Alabama, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. These stores merchandise a complete line of hard goods including furniture and appliances, auto accessories, toys, sporting goods, hardware and paints.

The acquisition of Economy Auto Stores provides us with a springboard for the expansion of our existing hard goods operations into the important southeast market. The hard goods operations will be enhanced by the integration of the merchandising, buying and management structure of Economy Auto with our Oklahoma Tire & Supply (OTASCO) Division, which distributes similar lines of merchandise through retail units in the Southwest and Midwest. We consider the hard goods field a growing retail area and an important element in our future plans.

Management

Much of the credit for the strides taken by your company during recent months must go to its newly developed management team. This was a period that saw a number of key appointments made, resulting in a consolidation of our management base in line with McCrory's expanded operations. J. Neal Dow, as senior vice president and assistant to the president, was elected a director of your company and assumed the added duties of the presidency of the McCrory-McLellan-Green Stores Division. Also elected to new executive positions were: Bert R. Prall, vice president of McCrory and president of McCrory Credit Corporation; Harold M. Lane, Jr., vice president; Harry J. Tofel, vice president and assistant to the president; Graham Magee, vice president; Miles Ellis, vice president of McCrory-McLellan-Green, and George Schwartz, vice president of McCrory-McLellan-Green and merchandising assistant to the president of McCrory Corporation.

Mr. Prall was formerly president and board chairman of H. L. Green and chairman of the Chicago District of the Federal Reserve Bank. Mr. Lane is executive vice president and a director of Lerner Stores Corporation. Mr. Tofel is a veteran of 35 years in merchandising and was formerly vice president, general merchandising manager and a director of H. L. Green. He will be primarily responsible for the development of our "McCrory Village" and "Shopmobile" programs. Mr. Magee has been associated with Lerner Stores for the past 33 years as a vice president and director. A leading real estate man, he will be coordinator of all McCrory Corporation real estate activities. Mr. Ellis, formerly assistant to the president of Butler Brothers, is now in charge of our Mobile Division, with headquarters in Mobile, Ala. Mr. Schwartz, formerly an executive with Sears, Roebuck & Co., will be in charge of establishing new buying policies and techniques and of advising and aiding our advertising and sales promotion departments.

We believe these appointments effectively strengthen our management and represent a forward step in the development of an executive force capable of molding our various corporate divisions into a successful, diversified retailing entity.

Credit Corporation

The organization of McCrory Credit Corporation under the presidency of Bert R. Prall took place in December 1961, too late to significantly affect 1961 results. This wholly owned subsidiary, centralizing and coordinating the growing credit programs of the company's various divisions, will contribute not only to our efficiency but also to our earnings.

Merchandising

The philosophy of McCrory Corporation is to provide our customers with quality merchandise at reasonable prices in conveniently located stores that offer a wholesome atmosphere in which to shop and work. We consider this philosophy basic to our future as a company. In addition, management is dedicated to exploring new and creative avenues of merchandising and operating potential and to building an employee corps whose future is securely linked to the growth and development of the company. An employee who has a stake in the success of his company is invariably a more efficient, productive and loyal worker. McCrory Corporation now has more than 1,375 employees who participate in our stock option and stock purchase incentive programs.

The merchandising and operational innovations introduced during the past year in keeping with this philosophy are too numerous to delineate here in detail. However, some of the highlights of our achievements in these areas were the development of a specification buying and merchandising program under the "McCrory Star Value" line; the introduction of a private label and packaging program; the establishment of the McCrory Laboratories for testing soft goods items sold in our stores; the launching of the McCrory "Shopmobile," a modern, motorized version of the old-fashioned peddler's cart which is currently touring the Florida area promoting the McCrory name and selling McCrory merchandise.

A signal event of 1961 was the completion of plans for our first full-sized "McCrory Village" in Pough-keepsie, N. Y. The McCrory Village is an integrated complex of various McCrory Corporation retailing entities operating as a unit under one roof. The McCrory Village in Poughkeepsie will be a 60,000 square foot center that will include a McCrory variety store, a Lerner women's and children's apparel shop, a National Shirt Shops men's furnishings unit and an OTASCO sporting goods and appliance unit. We expect to open this first Village in the latter part of 1962. Our Stillwater, Okla., store, a forerunner of the Poughkeepsie project, is a prototype of our future McCrory

"Junior Villages" combining two or more McCrory divisions under one roof. The Stillwater store includes a McLellan variety store and an OTASCO hard goods unit. The results of this Junior Village operation have been most gratifying.

Another noteworthy event of the past year was the signing of a lease for the construction of a 68,000 square foot McCrory variety unit in the new 890,000 square foot Walt Whitman Shopping Center in Huntington, Long Island. When completed later this year, the store will be one of the largest in the McCrory-McLellan-Green division.

In late 1961 we completed a master plan for a completely new distribution and warehousing system to supply the McCrory-McLellan-Green stores. The plan was put into effect during the first quarter of 1962 and will have its full impact starting with 1963. It calls for the erection of three warehouses in Pennsylvania, Georgia and Texas containing a total of more than 1,300,000 square feet, each using integrated data processing to control inventory and to facilitate the handling of merchandise.

The coordination of management policy on the merchandising and operational level was paralleled in 1961 by a similar coordination and consolidation on the administrative level. The results of these new administrative policies were evident in three important areas: taxation, insurance and real estate. We have created a single tax department to handle and process all federal, state and local tax returns of all our divisions. Individual tax departments in each of the subsidiaries were eliminated and key personnel shifted to the new central body at a substantial saving in work load and overhead.

We have also established centralized control of all insurance functions under a single department, and we have analyzed the insurance needs of our retail divisions with an eye toward providing overall coverage for them under a single broad policy. By combining our insurance departments, we have been able to effect important economies in administration, improve control and substantially reduce our costs.

Under Mr. Magee's direction, our real estate activities are undergoing a thorough revamping. All construction and leasing activity related to the real estate held by McCrory Corporation and its subsidiaries will be coordinated under a central authority. This centralization will assure us of a unified program for all real estate functions—including leasing, store design and store construction.

The current year holds out the promise of important new strides in the growth of McCrory Corporation. The integration of the various aspects of our operation will continue at an accelerated pace accompanied by the further expansion of our divisions. Last year McCrory Corporation as a whole opened 44 new units and remodeled an additional 105 stores in a program aimed at bringing all divisional retail units up to modern competitive standards. As of December 31, 1961, the company had a total of 1287 retail stores in operation, plus an additional 250 franchised stores. Our plans for the current year envision the inauguration of 68 new stores and the modernization of 100 units in all divisions (exclusive of our McCrory Villages and Gulf Mills Discount Department Stores).

Since the last Annual Meeting, there have been numerous additions to our board of directors and executive committee. Our board was augmented by the election of (in order of date of election): Harold M. Lane, chairman of Lerner Stores Corporation; Harold M. Lane, Jr., executive vice president of Lerner Stores Corporation; Frank J. Manheim, partner of Lehman Brothers; Bert R. Prall; John A. Wells, a senior partner in the law firm of Royall, Koegel & Rogers; O. Paul Decker, president and director of the National Boulevard Bank of Chicago, who, we regret to announce, has since passed away; Harold S. Divine, president of Divine & Fishman, Inc.; J. Neal Dow; Graham Magee, vice president of Lerner Stores Corporation.

Messrs. Lane, Sr., Manheim and Prall were named to our executive committee. Harry H. Wachtel was named vice chairman of the board in addition to his post as executive vice president.

In recognition of more than 40 years of outstanding service to the company, the board of directors named Roy F. Coppedge as chairman emeritus.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the more than 37,000 employees of McCrory Corporation and its subsidiaries, to our officers and to our directors for their exemplary team performance during 1961. To our stockholders we extend our thanks for their confidence and pledge our best efforts toward making 1962 a year in which the growing influence of McCrory Corporation will be even more deeply felt on the national retailing scene. We look forward to the challenge of tomorrow confident that the efforts of yesterday and today will see profitable fruition.

Respectfully submitted,

MESHULAM RIKLIS
Chairman of the Board

JAMES LUTZ
President

McCRORY CORPORATION

FINANCIAL REVIEW

SALES

The consolidated income statement of the McCrory Corporation for the year ended December 31, 1961, indicates total sales of \$409,234,759. In that connection, sales of the Lerner Stores Corporation prior to September 1, 1961, are excluded and sales of the Economy Auto Stores prior to November 1, 1961, are excluded since these were the dates of acquisition by McCrory.

A statistical compilation (if each of the operating entities were accumulated on a twelve-month basis) would result in combined net sales of approximately \$540,000,000 for 1961.

NET INCOME

The net income after taxes for 1961 amounted to \$8,369,119 including special items of \$3,016,589. Earnings per common share after payment of dividends on preferred and preference stock were \$1.25 per share on 5,612,103 shares outstanding as of December 31, 1961.

Dividends paid on common shares totaled \$4,-902,097 and on preferred and preference shares \$1,349,585.

SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

The shareholders' equity on December 31, 1961, totaled \$132,396,324 compared with \$100,992,762 on December 31, 1960, an increase of \$31,403,562. The net common stock equity was \$104,308,124 or \$18.59 per share on 5,612,103 shares outstanding on December 31, 1961, compared with \$15.25 per share on 5,223,059 shares outstanding as of December 31,

1960. During 1961, the number of shares outstanding increased by 389,044 shares, with the increase accountable for the most part from the conversion of 5½ per cent Preference B stock and 3½ per cent Preferred stock during the last months of 1961.

FINANCIAL CONDITION

Cash amounted to \$44,353,347 and the total current assets to \$158,425,138 on December 31, 1961. The company's working capital (excess of current assets over current liabilities) was \$94,844,234, a ratio of 2.5 to 1.

PROPERTY INVESTMENT

On December 31, 1961, the net investment in stores and other operating facilities amounted to \$87,-991,733 after setting aside total depreciation reserves of \$71,954,897.

Depreciation and amortization charged against earnings during 1961 amounted to \$7,234,649 (on a full twelve-month basis for all entities the total charge approximated \$9,000,000).

GENERAL

No meaningful comparison with previous results of operations is available since significant disposals, acquisitions and mergers were effectively accomplished at various times throughout the year.

Other sections of this report fully describe financial events of the year. For detailed descriptions of shares outstanding, long-term debt and other liabilities and assets, we ask you to refer to the accompanying financial statements.

McCRORY-McLELLAN-GREEN

Each new store under the McCrory, McLellan or Green name has been designed to fit its specific location and market area.



New store openings are accompanied by special merchandise promotions.



OFFICERS

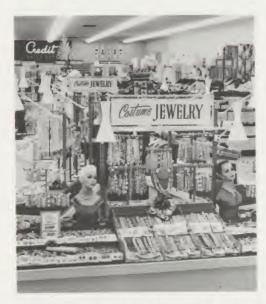
J. NEAL DOW																				President
L. C. SHOCKLEY .	٠						٠			٠						Se	nic	7	Vice	President
T. C. LAWRENCE .											Fii	nan	cial	Vi	ce	Pi	esi	dei	nt & !	Treasurer
JAMES F. BARNARD										٠									Vice	President
C. F. CARTER, JR.																			Vice	President
MILES ELLIS			٠			۰	٠	٠											Vice	President
J. F. KING							٠									٠			Vice	President
R. O. KRISTIANSEN	٠	٠				٠		٠										٠	Vice	President
BERNARD ORINGER		٠						٠											Vice	President
GEORGE SCHWARTZ		٠		٠					٠										Vice	President
E. C. WEYBURN .																				
C. R. Purdon																			Co	mptroller



OFFICE: 31-39 WEST 34TH STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Warehouses: New York, N. Y. — Brooklyn, N. Y. — Huntingdon, Pa. York, Pa. — Chicago, Ill. — Oklahoma City, Okla.

STORES DIVISION



Exciting new lines of merchandise have been added, such as costume jewelry.

Apparel departments have been continually upgraded in quality and widened in scope.

During the past year, 11 new stores were opened and 87 existing stores were remodeled.

With the integration of the former H. L. Green stores into the McCrory-McLellan-Green Stores Division, your company now operates a total of 600 variety stores in 38 states and the District of Columbia plus 97 stores comprising the Mobile and Cassels Divisions.

During 1961 some of our unprofitable stores were closed where lease arrangements were favorable for us to do so. We opened 11 new stores with a combined footage of 194,000 square feet, giving us an increase of 100,000 square feet over those stores that were closed. Eighty-seven stores were modernized in varying degrees. Modern selling fixtures and display counters were created in our own design and construction department for installation in the modernized stores, increasing display space by over 30 per cent for additional merchandise with greater sales exposure.

Other highlights of 1961 were the following:

- The integration of the H. L. Green Company into the McCrory-McLellan-Green Stores Division.
- The appointment of J. Neal Dow to the presidency of the newly formed McCrory-McLellan-Green division.
- The decentralization and realignment of our field management by appointing five regional managers who report directly to the president. These men are:

Region	Headquarters
Northeast	Newark, N. J.
East Central	Baltimore, Md.
Midwest	Lansing, Mich.
Southeast	Atlanta, Ga.
West	Dallas, Tex.
	Northeast East Central Midwest Southeast

- The introduction of private label brand merchandise and the introduction of our "Star Value" line of outstanding top grade products bought under rigidly controlled quality inspection.
- The appointment of additional top executives for the further implementation and development of merchandise and operating procedures.
- · The expansion of customer credit operations at present covering 34 stores.
- The conversion of unprofitable stores of our Mobile Division into Gulf Mills Discount Department Stores.
- · The introduction of the Shopmobile.

In preparation for the McCrory Village program scheduled to get underway in 1962, your company last year initiated a pilot project in retail consolidation at its store in Stillwater, Okla. The project, which combines a variety store and an automotive and appliance store, has provided us with valuable insights into the operation of future McCrory Villages. Your company plans to open several villages during 1962 combining diverse retail units from within the McCrory framework under one roof.



LERNER SHOPS

OFFICERS

HAROLD M. LANE
Chairman of Board of Directors

STANLEY H. KUNSBERG President

HAROLD M. LANE, JR.
Executive Vice President

GRAHAM MAGEE
Senior Vice President & Secretary

HAROLD F. MILLER Senior Vice President

D. JOHN PALLADINO
Vice President & Treasurer

BENJAMIN J. TIMONER Vice President

MILTON SEEGAL Vice President NATHAN B. EPSTEIN Vice President

ROBERT L. KRILL Vice President

HAROLD GREENE
Vice President

EUGENE SHAW
Vice President

MELVIN J. REDMOND Vice President

SAMUEL S. BRAND Vice President

DAVID D. GREENWALD Vice President

KARL MARGOLIES
Vice President

OFFICE: 354 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Lerner Shops, a national retailer of women's and children's apparel, consists of 310 retail stores in 39 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The company's main office is in New York, and it operates five regional distribution centers in Atlanta, Jacksonville, Chicago, Denver and Los Angeles. During 1961, 11 new stores were opened, including a second unit in Puerto Rico, and a number of existing stores were remodeled and enlarged.

In the past 40 years, Lerner Shops has become recognized as one of the country's most successful merchandisers of popular priced women's and children's wear. Over these years, Lerner has developed a strong organization of buyers and merchandisers with unrivaled experience in the popular priced soft goods apparel field. They have proved their ability to select lines of merchandise that appeal to a

mass market over a national area.

The company also expanded its activities into the discount field with the opening of three large Lanes stores in Manhattan and Nassau County, N. Y. These Lanes units have successfully formulated a concept of specialty fashion merchandising that accents high style for men, women and children. In addition to capitalizing on the company's know-how in the field of fashion they have developed a strong position in home furnishings, radio, television, appliances, photographic supplies and a complete line of domestics, curtains and drapes, all at prices within the range of the average consumer. The Lanes units operate autonomously with their own buying and merchandising staffs.

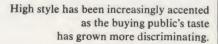
The company has a fully established credit system in operation in every one of its market areas with the exception of New York and last year opened central credit offices in Washington, D. C., and Los Angeles. Credit is planned for the New

York stores before the end of 1962.

Also during the past year a new building, equipped with the latest automatic facilities for merchandise handling, was erected in Atlanta, Ga. It contains approximately 142,000 square feet and replaces a building of 51,600 square feet which had become inadequate to handle the company's expanding operations in the South and Southwest.

Lerner Shops has won wide public recognition for quality merchandise in popularly priced women's and children's apparel.







NATIONAL SHIRT SHOPS DIVISION



Modern, well lighted stores with complete lines of men's and boy's wear offer top values from coast to coast.

OFFICERS

EDWARD L. MAR	KS													President
H. S. APTER .						Fir	nanc	rial	Vice	e P	resi	den	1 &	Treasurer
PHILLIP BLUME		٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠		Vice	Pr	esid			Charge of chandising
F. J. TYRRELL		٠								۰				Secretary

OFFICE: 19 WEST 34TH STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Continuing our expansion program begun in 1960, National Shirt Shops last year opened six new units for a total of 154 operating in 27 states and the District of Columbia. The division thus consolidated its position as the country's leading men's furnisher and the only national chain in the men's wear field.

National Shirt currently features a complete line of popular priced men's sportswear including suits, sweaters, slacks, jackets, sport coats, shirts, ties and haberdashery accessories. In late 1960, the division inaugurated its first boys' wear departments in selected units in Long Island, N. Y.; Louisville, Ky.; St. Louis, Mo., and Cincinnati, Ohio. These departments, which accent a complete boys' wear line in the same high style as men's wear, have proved so popular that last year they were extended to 28 of the division's outlets. These departments will be extended to additional units during the current year.

During 1961, National Shirt Shops celebrated its 50th anniversary as a men's clothier with special sales and promotions on a chain-wide basis. The results of this Golden Jubilee were most encouraging.

The National Shirt Shops Division continues to receive wide spread consumer acceptance in all areas throughout the country. With the company's excellent store and regional management organization, further growth can be anticipated for 1962.



Merchandise on display offers a superb choice of style and color.

AUTOMOTIVE and **MAJOR**

Since the acquisition last year of the outstanding stock of Economy Auto Stores, Inc., your company has pursued the task of consolidating the operations of Economy Auto and Oklahoma Tire & Supply (OTASCO) into a new Automotive and Major Appliance Division. In this way, McCrory believes it can best realize the benefits and economies of an integrated buying, merchandising and management program in the hard goods field.

With the additional capital provided by McCrory Corporation, OTASCO was able to expand its profitable operations during 1961 with the opening of seven new company-owned stores and five associated dealer stores. OTASCO is now comprised of 94 company-operated units and 177 franchised associated stores in five midwestern and southwestern states.

OTASCO specializes in the sale of a complete line of auto supplies, sporting goods, appliances, housewares and other hard goods—a total of more than 6,000 separate items. During 1961, OTASCO concentrated its efforts on the modernization of older stores and the opening of new units.

Economy Auto Stores has been a successful retail merchandiser of hard goods since its establishment in 1934. The company, acquired by McCrory during 1961, currently consists of 32 company-owned stores and 73 associated dealer stores in six southeastern states. The company's growth through the years has been backed by strong local advertising and close identification with the southern communities in which it operates.

OTASCO continues to grow, adding seven new stores and five associated dealer stores during the year.



Expanded lines of merchandise are offered including home and automotive supplies, toys, hobby and garden supplies and major appliances.



OKLAHOMA TIRE & SUPPLY OFFICERS

MAURICE SANDITEN							Chairman
JULIUS SANDITEN							President
ELY G. SANDITEN			. 5	Sen	ior	Vice	President
ABE BRAND						Vice	President
SAMUEL H. MINSKY							Secretary
HERMAN SANDITEN							Treasurer

OFFICE: 6901 EAST PINE STREET, TULSA, OKLA.

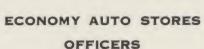
WAREHOUSES: TULSA, OKLA. - LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

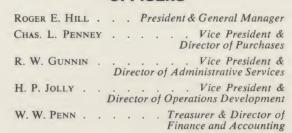
APPLIANCE DIVISION

The coordination of merchandising and buying of Economy Auto Stores and OTASCO is enhancing our automotive and major appliance operation.









OFFICE: 1130 BANKHEAD AVENUE, N.W., ATLANTA, GA.



A complete line of sporting goods complements the other lines of auto accessories, radio and television sets, apphances, toys, furniture, hardware and paints.

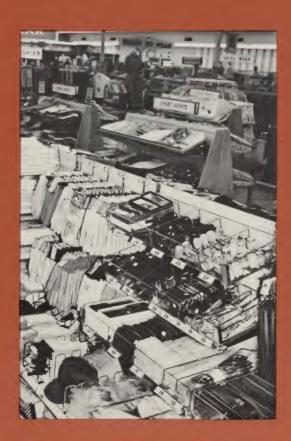








Interiors show the newest successful techniques in store design created and developed by McCrory's own staff of designers. The open, self-selling displays are an effective invitation to shop and buy.





Everything is within arm's reach of the customer. Counter and aisle design makes browsing and inspection of merchandise easy and pleasant. Products ranging from hosiery to hobby kits to whole furniture sets are shown in use.















McCRORY

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31, 1961 (NOTE 1)

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash		\$ 44,353,347
Accounts receivable— Customers' accounts	\$ 13,675,685	
Equity in installment accounts sold (the uncollected balances of which amount to \$12,259,000)	1,688,882	
Other	1,613,638	16,978,205
Merchandise inventories (Note 6)		95,180,292
Prepaid insurance, taxes, rents, store supplies, etc		1,913,294
Total current assets		\$158,425,138
FIXED ASSETS, at cost:		
Store properties and warehouses	\$ 23,005,356	
Furniture and fixtures and improvements to leased property	136,941,274	
	\$159,946,630	
Less—Accumulated depreciation and amortization	71,954,897	87,991,733
OTHER ASSETS:		
Debenture discount, less amortization of \$634,687 (Note 3)	\$ 10,764,414	
Goodwill, less amortization of \$174,236	1,178,393	
Excess of purchase cost of 1,180,820 shares (90% ownership) of Lerner Stores Corporation common stock over underlying net equity at date of acquisition, not at this date assigned to specific		
assets acquired (Note 3)	16,328,775	
Deferred charges, mortgages and sundry receivables	1,417,040	29,688,622
		\$276,105,493

LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Notes payable to banks		\$ 6,500,000
Current maturities of long-term debt (Note 5)		2,957,684
Accounts payable		30,965,068
Accrued expenses and sundry liabilities		17,745,739
Accrued Federal taxes on income		5,412,413
Total current liabilities		\$ 63,580,904
LONG-TERM DEBT, less current maturities (Note 5)		69,680,099
DEFERRED ITEMS:		
Deferred Federal income taxes	\$ 3,211,000	
Other	931,937	4,142,937
MINORITY INTEREST—in preferred (\$2,608,800) and common stock of Lerner Stores Corporation		6,305,229
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY (Notes 1, 2, 7 and 8):		
Preferred stock, cumulative, \$100 par value, series issue, authorized 79,679 shares—		
3½% series cumulative convertible, authorized 59,679 shares, issued 28,962 shares	\$ 2,896,200	
\$6.00 cumulative convertible preference stock, \$100 par value— 95,695 shares authorized and outstanding	9,569,500	
Preference B stock, \$100 par value, series issue, authorized 246,176 shares—		
5½ % series, cumulative (subordinated and convertible) authorized 54,676 shares, issued 14,568 shares	1,456,800	
4½% series, cumulative (subordinated and convertible) authorized 145,544 shares, issued and outstanding 141,657 shares	14,165,700	
Common stock, \$.50 par value—authorized 15,000,000 shares, issued 5,837,877	2,918,938	
Capital surplus (Note 7)	36,169,606	
Earned surplus (Note 7)	68,510,275	
	\$135,687,019	
Less—225,774 common shares of treasury stock, at cost	3,290,695	132,396,324
		\$276,105,493 =======

STATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED NET INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1961 (NOTE 1)

NET SALES—merchandise, restaurant and concession		\$409,234,759
COST OF GOODS SOLD, buying and occupancy expenses (net of service charge income), including depreciation and amortization of \$7,234,649.	\$296,341,506	
General and administrative expenses	100,032,642	396,374,148
OPERATING PROFIT		\$ 12,860,611
Other expense (net):		
Interest and debenture discount	\$3,909,737	
Less—investment income and miscellaneous income (net)	799,115	3,110,622
PROFIT BEFORE PROVISION FOR INCOME TAX .		\$ 9,749,989
Provision for Federal income taxes		4,015,000
NET INCOME before elimination of minority stockholders' equity in earnings of Lerner Stores Corporation		\$ 5,734,989
Minority stockholders' equity in earnings of Lerner Stores Corporation		382,459
NET INCOME applicable to shareholders of McCrory Corporation (Note 1)		\$ 5,352,530
Special items (Note 11)		3,016,589
NET INCOME AND SPECIAL ITEMS		\$ 8,369,119

The accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of the above statement.

STATEMENTS OF CONSOLIDATED SURPLUS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1961

	EARNED SURPLUS	CAPITAL SURPLUS
BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 1960	\$58,282,109	\$20,850,557
ADD (DEDUCT), Transactions incident to the "pooling" of H. L. Green Company, Inc. with the Company (Note 2)	8,126,380	(405,351)
BALANCE, beginning of period—as adjusted	\$66,408,489	\$20,445,206
ADD (DEDUCT): Net income and special items for the year ended December 31, 1961 (Note 1)	8,369,119	
Dividends paid during year:	\$74,777,608	\$20,445,206
Common stock (\$.90 per share)	(\$ 4,902,097)	\$ <u> </u>
share)	(140,986)	_
\$6 cumulative convertible preference stock (\$6.00 per share) 5½% series, cumulative (subordinated and convertible) preference B stock (\$5.50 per share)	(574,170) (206,087)	_
4½% series, cumulative (subordinated and convertible) preference B stock (\$2.625 per share)	(374,988)	_
Dividends on preferred stock of Lerner Stores Corporation	(53,354)	
Surplus arising from issuance of 1,585,274 warrants on Lerner acqui-	(\$ 6,251,682)	* -
sition stated at \$5.00 per warrant (Note 3)	\$ —	\$ 7,926,368
value of 448,928 shares of common stock upon conversion thereof Excess of proceeds over stated value of common stock of Lerner	_	7,352,136
Stores Corporation upon exercise of stock options	_	392,198
acquired over cost thereof	_	36,326
issued in exercise of warrants	_	6,162
Excess of cost of 7,850 shares of treasury stock issued under stock option plans over option price (Note 8)	(21,764)	
Other	6,113	11,210
BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 1961	\$68,510,275	\$36,169,606

The accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of the above statements.

ARTHUR ANDERSEN & Co.

80 PINE STREET
NEW YORK 5

To the Board of Directors of

McCrory Corporation:

We have examined the consolidated balance sheet of McCrory Corporation (a Delaware corporation) and subsidiary companies as of December 31, 1961, and the related statements of consolidated net income and consolidated surplus for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. The financial statements (for the four months ended December 31, 1961) of Lerner Stores Corporation, whose net assets represent approximately 31% of the total net assets included in the consolidated financial statements, were not examined by us, but we were furnished with reports of other public accountants thereon. (See Notes 1 and 3 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements with respect to the McCrory investment in Lerner and the Lerner earnings consolidated with those of McCrory.)

In our opinion, based upon our examination and upon the reports of other public accountants referred to above, the accompanying consolidated balance sheet and the related statements of consolidated net income and consolidated surplus present fairly the financial position of McCrory Corporation and subsidiary companies as of December 31, 1961, and the results of their operations for the year then ended, and were prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

arthur anderson + Co.

New York, N. Y., March 30, 1962.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 1961

(1) Principles of consolidation:

The accompanying consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 1961, include all wholly-owned subsidiaries, as well as the several businesses formerly operated as H. L. Green Company, Inc. and Economy Auto Stores, Inc., which were merged into the Company during the year. In addition, the accounts reflect the consolidation of Lerner Stores Corporation, which became a majority-owned company early in September, 1961. At December 31, 1961, McCrory owned approximately 90% of the Lerner common stock.

Income and costs and expenses of the merged, acquired and majority-owned companies are included in the accompanying statement of consolidated net income, as follows:

H. L. GREEN COMPANY, INC. -

February 1, 1961 through December 31, 1961 (Green earnings for its fiscal year ended January 31, 1961, which reflected a \$552,000 loss during the month of January, were included in the amount credited to McCrory Earned Surplus in recording the June 21, 1961, merger as a "pooling of interests.")

LERNER STORES CORPORATION -

September 1, 1961 through December 31, 1961—McCrory equity in Lerner net income amounted to \$3,532,000 (See Lerner's Consolidated Statement of Income in accompanying Lerner Stores Corporation Annual Report for information on Lerner earnings for its fiscal year ended January 31, 1962.)

ECONOMY AUTO STORES, INC. -

November 1, 1961 (effective date of acquisition as recognized for accounting purposes) through December 31, 1961—net income of \$101,000.

(2) Transactions incident to the "pooling" of H. L. Green Company, Inc., merged into McCrory on June 21, 1961:

Pursuant to an Agreement of Merger between McCrory and Green, as approved by their respective stockholders, Green was merged into McCrory on June 21, 1961. Holders of 726,933 shares of Green common stock received for each Green share one-fifth of a share of a new series of McCrory 4½% cumulative preference B stock (\$100 par value) plus warrants to purchase, through March 15, 1976, one and one-half shares of McCrory common stock at the price of \$20 per share. The Green merger has been accounted for as a "pooling of interests", and on the merger date, the assets and liabilities of Green were recorded in the accounts of McCrory at the amounts at which they were previously carried in the accounts of Green, except that the 784 treasury shares of Green were canceled.

The balance in the surplus accounts of Green was "pooled" with the surplus of McCrory, as follows:

the surplus of McCrory, as follows:	Earned Surplus	Capital Surplus
H. L. Green Company, Inc. balance February 1, 1961	\$34,100,934	\$ 9,723,816
Less-adjustments to reflect "pooling":		
Cancellation of McCrory investment and Green treasury stock—		
Excess of cost of McCrory invest- ment in 734,747 shares of Green common stock over the par value thereof	(\$16,266,559)	(\$ 4,885,581)
Excess of underlying net equity of Green over cost of McCrory investment at December 31, 1960, credited to McCrory con- solidated surplus at that date	(714,079)	(405,351)
Excess of Green cost of 784 shares of treasury stock over the par value thereof.	(15,172)	
Issuance of McCrory stock in ex- change for Green stock—		
Excess of par value (\$100 per share) of 145,387 shares of Mc-Crory 4½% cumulative preference B stock issued (1 for 5) in exchange for 726,933 shares of Green common stock over the par value (\$1 per share) thereof.	(8,978,744)	(4,833,023)
	(\$25,974,554)	(\$10,129,167)
Net surplus addition (deduction) aris-	(+20,511,051)	(100,107,107)
ing from the "pooling" of Green with McCrory	\$ 8,126,380	(\$ 405,351)

(3) Acquisition of majority control of Lerner Stores Corporation:

During 1961, McCrory acquired 1,180,820 shares (90% ownership) of Lerner Stores Corporation common stock, principally as the result of a tender offer made on August 10, 1961. A total of 123,971 of these shares was purchased for \$4,186,890 in cash and 1,056,894 shares were acquired in exchange for \$42,273,960 face amount of McCrory 5½% Sinking Fund Subordinated Debentures, plus Warrants to purchase through March 15, 1976, 1,585,274 shares of McCrory common stock at a price of \$20 per share. In accounting for the cost of the Lerner shares acquired in exchange for McCrory securities, the McCrory Board of Directors determined that its debentures be valued at 83% of the face

amount of the debentures issued and the warrants be valued at \$5 each. Accordingly, the aggregate cost of the investment in ownership of 90% of Lerner amounted to \$47,405,070 (including related expenses), which exceeded the McCrory equity in underlying Lerner net assets at September 1, 1961 (approximate date of acquisition of majority control) by \$16,328,775. This excess purchase cost, which has not at this date been assigned to specific assets acquired, has been recognized by the McCrory management to be similar in nature to intangibles which have not declined in value since date of acquisition. Accordingly, the McCrory management has adopted an accounting policy of not amortizing this excess purchase cost, so long as there is no recognized diminution in value of its investment in Lerner.

McCrory's equity in Lerner's net income for the four months ended December 31, 1961, is included in the accompanying statement of consolidated net income.

(4) Acquisition of Economy Auto Stores, Inc..

Pursuant to a contract of purchase dated October 12, 1961, McCrory acquired approximately 95% of the outstanding common stock of Economy Auto Stores, Inc. On December 27, 1961, Economy was liquidated into and merged with McCrory. The aggregate cost to acquire the assets of Economy was \$1,809,536 which was less than its underlying net book value.

The income of Economy for the two months ended December 31, 1961, is included in the accompanying statement of consolidated net income.

(5) Long-term debt:

Long-term debt at December 31, 1961, including maturities due within one year consisted of the following:

	Total	Current Maturi- ties	Long- Term Debt
5½% sinking fund subordinated debentures, due 1976 (a)	\$40,968,960	s –	\$40,968,960
5.235% subordinated notes due in equal annual installments to 1971	17,862,845	1,786,284	16,076,561
3% sinking fund debentures due 1967 (b)	4,490,000	_	4,490,000
Notes payable to bank (c)	4,500,000	500,000	4,000,000
Mortgages payable	2,302,978	234,400	2,068,578
4% notes due in equal annual installments to 1967	1,998,000	333,000	1,665,000
3¾ % notes due in equal annual installments to 1966	515,000	104,000	411,000
	\$72,637,783	\$2,957,684	\$69,680,099

- (a) Exclusive of \$1,305,000 redeemed and canceled. Sinking fund requirements in each year are as follows: 1965 and 1966—\$1,024,224; 1967 through 1971—\$2,048,448; 1972 through 1976—\$3,277,517, with a final payment of \$12,-290,688 due on August 15, 1976.
- (b) Exclusive of \$1,110,000 in treasury. Sinking fund requirements are \$600,000 in each year to 1966 and \$2,600,000 at maturity.
- (c) Notes payable to bank are due in equal installments of \$500,000 in 1962 and 1963, with interest at 3¾% per annum, and the balance of \$3,500,000 in 1964, with interest at 4% per annum.

The restrictive covenants of the indentures covering the 51/2% sinking fund subordinated debentures and the 5.235% subordinated notes payable provide, among other matters, for the

maintenance of specified amounts of working capital, as defined, and for certain limitations on indebtedness, as defined, which requirements at December 31, 1961, were met as follows:

- (a) Consolidated working capital (as defined) which amounted to \$95,595,000 must be maintained at least equal to the unpaid principal amount of the debentures outstanding, \$40,968,960.
- (b) Consolidated current assets were 252% of consolidated current liabilities (as defined) as compared to the 175% requirement.
- (c) Consolidated indebtedness (as defined), which should not be in excess of 50 per cent of consolidated net worth, amounted to \$53,604,000, which is \$12,595,000 less than the maximum indebtedness allowed.

(6) Merchandise inventories:

Merchandise inventories, stated at the lower of cost or market consist of the following:

Raw materials including merchandise at contractors—at specific invoice cost or replacement cost	\$ 418,592
Merchandise in transit, at warehouses, and at restaurants—at cost	12,806,881
Merchandise in stores— at retail method \$77,389,528	
at first-in, first-out cost 4,145,399	
at last-in, first-out cost 419,892	81,954,819
	\$95,180,292

(7) Preferred and preference stock and warrants:

At December 31, 1961, there are 787,091 shares of common stock reserved for the conversion of preferred and preference stock, as follows:

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10
06
20
55
91
3

In addition, 2,675,358 shares of common stock are reserved for the exercise, at \$20 per share, of warrants (expiring in 1976) issued in connection with the Green merger and the purchase of Lerner stock.

Pursuant to certain restrictions in connection with the authorization of preferred stock, capital and earned surplus as at December 31, 1961, in the approximate amount of \$6,500,000 (including \$3,462,469 restricted as the result of purchase of McCrory preference and common stock) are restricted as to future payments of dividends on the common stock or purchase or redemption of shares of its stock.

(8) Stock option and employees' stock purchase plans:

Under the Company's restricted stock option plans adopted in 1960 for key employees and officers, 725,000 shares of common stock were reserved for the issuance of options at 95% of the

fair market value on the dates of grant, of which options for 699,950 shares have been issued (including 1,350 shares canceled in 1961) at prices ranging from \$11.88 to \$20.90. Options to purchase 166,950 shares at prices ranging from \$13.30 to \$20.90 were issued during the year, and options to purchase 4,850 shares were exercised during the year at an aggregate option price of \$61,264. At December 31, 1961, options as to 693,750 shares were outstanding, of which options to purchase 111,550 shares were exercisable; 26,400 shares remained available for future option grants under the plans.

A restricted stock option plan adopted during 1961, subject to stockholders' approval, authorized the grant to key employees and officers of options to purchase 350,000 shares of common stock at 95% of the fair market value on the dates of grant. Options to purchase 25,000 shares at \$18.30 a share and 232,000 shares at \$21.50 a share have been issued and 93,000 shares remain available for future option grants under this plan.

Options granted are exercisable for a maximum of ten years. Options generally become exercisable to the extent of 20% each year on and after the anniversary dates of the grants with respect to the 1960 plans, and 20% each year on and after the second anniversary dates of the grants with respect to the 1961 plan. Options may not be sold, transferred, assigned, pledged or disposed of by the optionee except by will or laws of inheritance. In the event of termination of employment by resignation or death, all options will expire within varying periods up to six months from such termination.

During 1961, an option to purchase the remaining 3,000 shares granted under a 1956 Plan was exercised at an aggregate option price of \$23,630.

Employee stock purchase plans adopted during 1960 (115,000 shares) and 1961 (75,000 shares subject to stockholders' approval) permit the grant of rights to purchase a total of 190,000 shares of common stock at 85% of the fair market value thereof on the dates of grant. At December 31, 1961, rights for 80,820 shares under the 1960 Plan had been subscribed; at that date, the 75,000 shares under the 1961 Plan had not been offered for subscription.

(9) Pension plans:

The Board of Directors of McCrory has approved, in principle, the combining of the separate non-contributory retirement plans covering McCrory-McLellan and former Green employees under a single plan to cover eligible employees of the McCrory-McLellan-Green Division, effective January 1, 1962. As under the separate plans, the cost of the continuing plan will be met, as required, by periodic contributions to the successor trust. Due to realized gains on sales of trust assets and actuarial gains, no 1961 contribution was deemed necessary and no provision for costs under these plans has been reflected in the 1961 statement of consolidated net income. If the Company had made provisions for 1961 pension costs, it is estimated that such costs would have amounted to \$360,000 net of Federal tax benefit. Because of the

1961 investment and actuarial gains, no contribution may be required for several years.

Contributions of \$360,000, net of Federal income tax benefit, required under the terms of other non-contributory retirement plans and profit sharing plans for employees of Oklahoma Tire and Supply, National Shirt Shops, and Economy Auto Stores Divisions, and Lerner Stores Corporation, paid or accrued during 1961, have been reflected in the accompanying statement of consolidated net income.

(10) Lease commitments:

At December 31, 1961, the minimum annual rentals upon property leased to the Company and its subsidiaries under leases expiring after December 31, 1964, amount to approximately \$21,700,000, plus, in certain instances, real estate taxes, insurance, etc.

The Company remains contingently liable for the Butler Brothers and Metropolitan Stores liabilities assumed by the respective purchasers of their assets, including liability for rentals aggregating approximately \$31,000,000 at December 31, 1961, under long-term leases expiring 1962-1985 transferred to the purchasers. The Company has received from the purchasers valid and enforceable agreements of assumption of liabilities and indemnification in form satisfactory to counsel for the Company.

(11) Special items:

Special items included in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 1961 are as follows:

Net gain on the sale of Metropolitan Stores, Ltd	\$2,539,655
Refunds of prior years' Federal income taxes (\$1,400,000 —see comments below) and other prior years' adjustments relating to H. L. Green Company, Inc	1,081,491
Expenses incident to the merger of H. L. Green Company, Inc.	(604,557)
	\$3,016,589

As a result of an anticipated settlement with the Internal Revenue Service of claims for Federal income tax refunds relating to the loss incurred by the former H. L. Green Company, Inc. on the Olen net asset deficiency, the Company credited the excess (\$1,400,000) of net refunds received during the year and prior periods over the estimated liability for amounts to be repaid to the U. S. Treasury to special credits, as of December 31, 1961.

Note as to events subsequent to date of opinion of independent public accountants:

McCrory Corporation, on April 10, 1962, made a tender offer to the minority Lerner Stores Corporation stockholders to purchase their remaining 127,880 shares of Lerner common stock at a price of \$38 per share. This tender offer will expire on May 1, 1962.

McCRORY VILLAGE

A complete one-stop shopping center to meet all modern shopping needs, McCrory Village will combine the various divisions of McCrory Corporation into one great store. It is the concrete expression of management's determination to supply all of the consumer's needs in one central shopping area. Although each McCrory department has its own entrance, the interior is a single vista displaying over 30,000 different items. McCrory Villages are planned for suburban areas in many parts of the U.S.



Under the McCrory Village sign each departmental entity will retain its own identity as well as its own store entrance.

SHOPMOBILE





The Shopmobile, a McCrory's on wheels, is the company's own method of conveying the McCrory image and McCrory merchandise to rural America. Rolling through suburban and exurban areas, it brings variety and big-ticket items, appliances, apparel and a general merchandise catalogue to families who find it difficult to visit regular shopping areas. Wives whose husbands take the family car each morning appreciate McCrory's Shopmobile, which brings thousands of needed products practically to their door. The pilot Shopmobile is at present operating in the Orlando area of Florida on an experimental basis, selling merchandise and creating good will for McCrory wherever it goes. The Shopmobile, designated a Civil Defense vehicle, has a strong power generator, a public-address system and external floodlights.

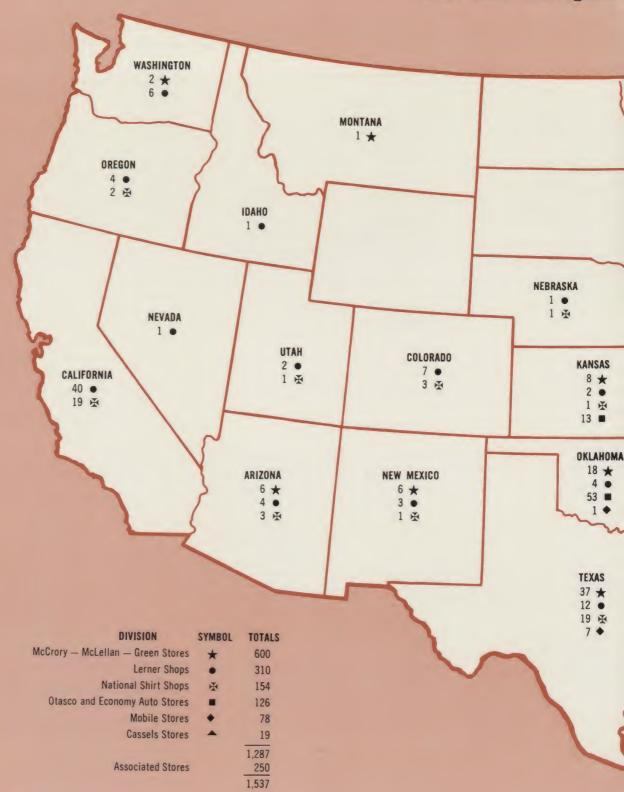
McLELLAN - OTASCO

A harbinger of retail developments to come, the combined McLellan-OTASCO center was successfully opened this year in downtown Stillwater, Okla., as a prototype of McCrory Junior Villages to be located throughout the country. The Stillwater store, operated as a single establishment, offers customers a vast diversity of merchandise — variety, automotive, home supply and soft goods.



McCRORY

1,537 Stores Throughout

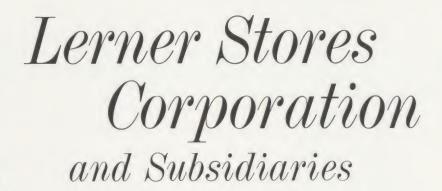


CORPORATION

the U.S. and Puerto Rico







Annual Report

Year Ended January 31, 1962

DIRECTORS

JOSEPH L. ECKHOUSE, Consultant

EUGENE S. HOOPER, Financial Consultant, Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company

HERBERT M. KAISER, Senior Vice President, Burlington Industries, Inc.

STANLEY H. KUNSBERG, President

HAROLD M. LANE, Chairman of the Board

HAROLD M. LANE, JR., Executive Vice President

RAYMOND E. LEE, President, Telautograph Company

JAMES LUTZ, President, McCrory Corporation

GRAHAM MAGEE, Senior Vice President and Secretary

HAROLD F. MILLER, Senior Vice President

D. JOHN PALLADINO, Vice President and Treasurer

MESHULAM RIKLIS, Chairman of the Board, McCrory Corporation

CARYL H. SAYRE, Former Vice President, Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.

MILTON SEEGAL, Vice President

BENJAMIN J. TIMONER, Vice President

HARRY H. WACHTEL, Executive Vice President, McCrory Corporation

OFFICERS

HAROLD M. LANE Chairman of the Board

STANLEY H. KUNSBERG

HAROLD M. LANE, JR. Executive Vice President

GRAHAM MAGEE Senior Vice President and Secretary

HAROLD F. MILLER Senior Vice President D. JOHN PALLADINO Vice President and Treasurer

BENJAMIN J. TIMONER Vice President

MILTON SEEGAL Vice President

ROBERT L. KRILL Vice President

HAROLD GREENE Vice President

EUGENE SHAW Vice President

NATHAN B. EPSTEIN Vice President

MELVIN J. REDMOND Vice President

SAMUEL S. BRAND Vice President

DAVID D. GREENWALD Vice President

KARL MARGOLIES
Vice President

TRANSFER AGENT: MANUFACTURERS HANOVER TRUST COMPANY, New York, N.Y.

REGISTRAR: THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, New York, N.Y.

ANNUAL MEETING: FOURTH TUESDAY IN MAY

Proxies will be required for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on May 22, 1962. The Proxy Statement is expected to be sent to Stockholders about April 30, 1962.

TO OUR SHAREHOLDERS:

The past year was a historic one for Lerner Stores Corporation. After almost half a century as a leading merchandiser of women's and children's apparel, your company joined forces with McCrory Corporation, one of the nation's largest retail companies, by virtue of McCrory's acquisition of a 91 per cent interest in Lerner stock.

Important advantages to our company resulting from the relationship with McCrory Corporation are the additional capital and management resources that McCrory affords us in the profitable expansion of our business. McCrory, with its 1,200 stores (excluding Lerner) encompassing the variety, hard goods and men's wear fields, represents a pool of diversified management talents capable of tremendous accomplishment in the field of retailing.

Equally important is the McCrory concept of merchandising, which looks toward the gradual integration of all its non-foods retail units under one roof. This is the "McCrory Village" concept of one-stop, non-foods shopping centers. We earnestly believe that this concept, with its conveniences, economies and efficiencies, affords a brilliant opportunity for retail merchandising. We are excited and proud to be a part of it.

Our management has joined that of McCrory's to plan for the future. Harold M. Lane, Sr., was elected to the board of directors and is a member of the executive committee of McCrory Corporation. Harold M. Lane, Jr., and Graham Magee have been elected vice presidents and directors of McCrory Corporation.

For Lerner Stores itself, 1961 marked another year of steady progress. During this period we opened 11 new stores—including our second store in Puerto Rico—and closed five outmoded units. As of January 31, 1962, the company was operating a total of 310 stores in 39 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Net sales for the year ended January 31, 1962, were \$204,023,264 as compared with \$197,929,222 for the previous fiscal year, an increase of approximately 3 per cent. However, profits for the year were adversely affected by a poor first quarter which resulted from abnormally unfavorable weather conditions throughout the important Easter season. The profit rate for the balance of the year compared favorably with the previous year. Net earnings after Federal and all other taxes were \$2,803,925, compared with \$3,099,816 for the previous fiscal year. There were 1,308,700 common shares outstanding at January 31, 1962, as compared with 1,235,100 at the end of the previous fiscal year, an increase of 73,600 shares.

Among the highlights of the past year were the encouraging growth of our three Lanes Discount Centers located in New York City and in Valley Stream and Lake Success, Long Island, and the expansion of our credit operation and the inauguration of regional credit offices in California and Washington, D. C. This year it is contemplated that credit buying will be introduced to our stores in the New York City area, thereby practically completing our chain-wide credit program. Also during the past year a new building, equipped with the latest automatic facilities for merchandise handling, was erected in Atlanta, Georgia. It contains approximately 142,000 square feet and replaces a building of 51,600 square feet which had become inadequate to handle the company's expanding operations in the South and Southwest.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to our buying, merchandising, sales and administrative personnel who have contributed so wholeheartedly throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

HAROLD M. LANE Chairman of the Board STANLEY H. KUNSBERG President

CONSOLIDATED

AS AT JANU

ASSETS

Current Assets:		
Cash		\$ 6,801,643
United States Government securities—at cost plus accrued interest (approximates market)		2,960,412
Accounts receivable—customers (net of reserve for doubtful accounts of \$822,000)		10,206,385
Sundry receivables and other assets		747,268
Merchandise inventories—at the lower of cost or market: Finished goods—based upon the retail method	\$23,419,964	
Merchandise at contractors and in transit and raw materials	1,755,657	25,175,621
Prepaid expenses		501,542
Total Current Assets		46,392,871
Mortgages, Sundry Receivables, etc.		410,450
Mortgages, Sundry Receivables, etc. Fixed Assets—at cost—Note A:		410,450
	1,875,271	410,450
Fixed Assets—at cost—Note A:	1,875,271 809,903	410,450
Fixed Assets—at cost—Note A: Land		410,450
Fixed Assets—at cost—Note A: Land Buildings	809,903	410,450
Fixed Assets—at cost—Note A: Land Buildings Buildings on leased property	809,903 8,910,074	410,450
Fixed Assets—at cost—Note A: Land Buildings Buildings on leased property	809,903 8,910,074 25,563,744	410,450 22,532,554
Fixed Assets—at cost—Note A: Land Buildings Buildings on leased property Furniture, fixtures and leasehold improvements	809,903 8,910,074 25,563,744 37,158,992	

BALANCE SHEET

ARY 31, 1962

LIABILITIES

		\$ 5,202,249
		3,135,888
		4,733,317
		948,942
		1,776,995
		15,797,391
A		12,368,182
		2,435,000
Shares		
50,000		
18,000		
32,000	\$ 3,200,000	
6,027	602,700	
25,973	2,597,300	
1,800,000		
1,308,700	763,408	
	3,360,708	
	2 43 2 40 2	
	33,466,401	39,446,599
		\$70,047,172
	50,000 18,000 32,000 6,027 25,973 1,800,000	Shares 50,000 18,000 32,000 6,027 25,973 2,597,300 1,800,000 1,308,700 763,408 3,360,708 2,619,490

LERNER STORES CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EARNED SURPLUS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 1962

Net sales		\$204,023,264
Cost of goods sold, buying and net occupancy expenses, net of budget and layaway service charges (exclusive of depreciation and amortization)	\$ 157,272,520	
Selling, general and administrative expenses (exclusive of depreciation and amortization)	40,029,929	197,302,449
Provision for depreciation and amortization		6,720,815 2,458,122
Other income, including interest of \$359,857		4,262,693 1,007,901
Other deductions, including interest of \$552,650		5,270,594 596,669
Net income before Federal income taxes		4,673,925
Provision for Federal income taxes, including deferred Federal income taxes—Note B		1,870,000
Net income		2,803,925
Earned Surplus as at January 31, 1961		32,591,635
Dividends paid on:		35,395,560
4½% Cumulative Preferred Stock	122,914	
Common Stock	1,806,245	1,929,159
Earned Surplus as at January 31, 1962—Note A		\$ 33,466,401

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT JANUARY 31, 1962

NOTE A — Long term debt consists of the following:

	Total	Current Portion	Non-Current Portion
3% Sinking Fund Debentures—due July 1, 1967. Less: In treasury	\$ 5,600,000 1,120,000	\$600,000 600,000	\$ 5,000,000 520,000
	4,480,000	_	4,480,000
4% Notes Payable—due July 1, 1967	1,998,000	333,000	1,665,000
Notes Payable—bank	4,500,000	500,000	4,000,000
Mortgages Payable (on land and buildings amounting to \$1,590,000 after re- serves for depreciation)	1,409,121	49,751	1,359,370
Reserve for Retirement Allowances	425,907	31,976	393,931
Sundry	504,096	34,215	469,881
	\$13,317,124	\$948,942	\$12,368,182

The Notes Payable—bank are payable in three installments, the first two of which, amounting to \$500,000 each, are payable on August 1, 1962 and 1963 and the final installment of \$3,500,000 is payable on February 1, 1964.

The indenture and the agreements relating to the debentures and notes payable shown above provide, among other things, for the maintenance of specified minimum amounts of working capital and for certain restrictions on the creation of funded debt (including mortgages) and on the payment of dividends (other than stock dividends and dividends on presently outstanding 4½% Cumulative Preferred Stock) or other distributions. As at January 31, 1962, approximately \$22,800,000 of surplus is subject to the aforementioned restrictions.

NOTE B-

In accordance with the consistent policies of the companies, accelerated depreciation on certain fixed assets and the installment method of reporting income from certain budget charge account sales are used for Federal income tax purposes. These policies have resulted in a deferral of a portion of Federal income taxes provided in the current and prior years.

The Internal Revenue Service has under review income tax returns of the companies for the fiscal years ended in 1958 and 1959. The Revenue Agent's proposed additional assessments for the fiscal year

ended in 1958 will not exceed the amount provided therefor. The Revenue Agent's proposed adjustments if applied to fiscal years subsequent to 1958 would result in additional assessments for such years in excess of amounts provided therefor. However, the companies believe that there is no merit to the proposed adjustments and that the ultimate disposition thereof would have no material effect on the accompanying financial statements.

The accompanying financial statements are subject to final determination of Federal, state and local taxes.

NOTE C-

As at January 31, 1961, options to purchase 84,900 shares were outstanding under the terms of an Employees Stock Option Plan. During the current year, options for 200 shares expired, and options for 73,600 shares were exercised which resulted in proceeds of \$1,535,225, of which \$1,492,292 was credited to Capital Surplus and \$42,933 to Common Stock.

As at January 31, 1962, options to purchase 11,100 shares at \$24.70 per share were held by 14 individuals.

NOTE D -

The 4½% Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$100 per share, is entitled to \$105 per share plus accrued dividends in the event of voluntary or involuntary dissolution and is redeemable at \$105 per share plus accrued dividends, subject to restrictions set forth in Note A.

During the year, the Corporation acquired 3,424 shares of its $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ Cumulative Preferred Stock. The par value of these shares amounting to \$342,400 was charged to treasury stock. The excess of the par value over the acquisition cost of such shares, amounting to \$26,400, was credited to Capital Surplus.

Subsequent to January 31, 1962, the Corporation purchased 892 shares for \$83,033.

NOTE E -

As at January 31, 1962, the minimum annual rentals on property leased under 365 leases expiring after January 31, 1965, amounted to approximately \$8,600,000 plus, in some instances, real estate taxes, insurance, etc. Included in the foregoing is a lease on certain real property previously carried on the books of a subsidiary company at approximately \$750,000, which property was sold and leased back during January 1962. The leases referred to above include 6 leases under which the companies may be required to purchase the premises under lease for a total of \$1,556,210 at the option of the landlords. Various companies are contingently liable on bonds and mortgages in the approximate amount of \$317,000 on real estate which had been sold previously.

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

S. D. LEIDESDORF & CO.

Certified Public Accountants

New York, N. Y.

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS LERNER STORES CORPORATION NEW YORK, N. Y.

We have examined the consolidated balance sheet of Lerner Stores Corporation and subsidiary companies as at January 31, 1962, and the related consolidated statement of income and earned surplus for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated balance sheet and consolidated statement of income and earned surplus, together with the notes to financial statements, present fairly the consolidated financial position of Lerner Stores Corporation and subsidiary companies at January 31, 1962, and the consolidated results of their operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

New York, N. Y. March 30, 1962

S. D. Leidesdorf & Co.

LERNER STORES CORPORATION and Subsidiaries

ANNUAL REPORT Year Ended January 31, 1962



